

will set a terrier in pursuit. he will growl in his sleep if he dreams of the experience. Memory should then be represented in the machine by another set of starting levers, separate from but linked with those that represent sensation. In an animal that possesses memory, sensory impressions always arouse recollections, and have thus the effect of releasing not single impulses but assortments of impulses : and its conduct is, accordingly, not the simple and direct result of sensation, but is determined by the predominance of one impulse, or of a certain mixture of impulses, over a number of competitors. The winning impulse, or assortment of impulses, gains the mastery on some occasions by its intrinsic forcefulness : on other occasions because it is reinforced by an instinct which was in dominance at the time it was aroused, because its influence has been swollen by habit.¹ because it is endorsed by reason, or because it is selected by the will.

This view will be rejected by many of the highest authorities. They maintain that each starting-lever—or nerve-cell—is supplied with a stock of energy of its own, that it is equipped, so to speak, with a little charge of explosive which is fired when the nerve is touched, and propels the machinery. They maintain, in fact, that the nerves not only start the machinery, but drive it. Indisputably the nerves are furnished with supplies of explosives, the replenishment of

which is one of the functions of the digestive, respiratory and circulatory systems of the body. The theory, accordingly, gains some corroboration from a scientific fact. And to minds of a materialistic tendency it is more attractive than a hypothesis which postulates the existence of a number of

¶ We shall see later on, how potent is the effect of habit in controlling the conflict between antagonistic impulses.